Mint of the Anited States at Philadelphia, Pa., May 18 ", 188" Hon D. he Tox. Superi tendent. In reply to the inguity of the Derector in his letter of the 16th mist relative to alleged variations in size of hickelylive cent pieces and desiring to be informed of the diameter of the pieces struck last year, I have the honor to state. that in agard to the hickel few confesces in question. They may vary slightly in size owing to The even of the Collar caused by friction with the hard metal, as was noticed in some instances during the recent re-comage of one and five weath mickel, but careful observation at the loving tresses is required to detect any appreciable increase in size of the Collars and as some as a Collar becomes a

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

COINER'S DEPARTMENT.

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little worn or ough it is replaced by a new one, The diameter of the 54 hickel pieces cannot be expassed in twentieths of an ench without giving fractions, as it was made after the ofrench sugasure, which does not correspond to ours, The chanceler of this coin is 2150 millimetres or 1000 of an inch, and I would state, the act of Congress only provides for weight and foreness of the conic -

Very Respectfully Four Obegient formuch,

Conver,

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa., Coiner's Department, May 18, 1887

Hon. D.M. Fox, Superintendent.

Sir,

In reply to the inquiry of the Director in his letter of the 16th inst. relative to alleged variations in size of nickel five cent pieces and desiring to be informed of the diameter of the pieces struck last year. I have the honor to state that in regard to the nickel five cent pieces in question. They may vary slightly in size owing to the wear of the collar caused by friction with the hard metal, as was noticed in some instances during the recent re-coinage of one and five cent nickel, but careful observation at the Coining Presses is required to detect any appreciable increase in size of the collars and as soon as a collar becomes a little worn or rough it is replaced by a new one. The diameter of the 5 cent nickel pieces cannot be expressed in twentieths of an inch without giving fractions. As it was made after the French measure, which does not correspond to ours. The diameter of this coin is 21 10/50 millimeters or 835/1000 of an inch, and I would state, the Act of Congress, only provides for weight and fineness of the coin.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant W.S. Steel Coiner.